



Members:

Rep. Vanessa Summers, Chairperson
Rep. Mae Dickinson
Rep. Robert Behning
Rep. Michael Young
Sen. Patricia Miller
Sen. Lawrence Borst
Sen. Billie Breaux
Sen. Glenn Howard

CENTRAL STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

LSA Staff:

Ron Sobecki, Fiscal Analyst for the Committee
Ann Naughton, Attorney for the Committee

Legislative Services Agency
200 West Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789
Tel: (317) 232-9588 Fax: (317) 232-2554

Authority: P.L. 102-1998

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: June 15, 1998
Meeting Time: 10:00 A.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., Room 233
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 1

Members Present: Rep. Vanessa Summers, Chair; Rep. Robert Behning; Sen. Patricia Miller.

Members Absent: Rep. Mae Dickinson; Rep. Michael Young; Sen. Lawrence Borst; Sen. Billie Breaux; Sen. Glenn Howard.

LSA Staff Present: Ron Sobecki, Fiscal Analyst; Ann Naughton, Staff Attorney.

Representative Summers called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and asked Jay McQueen, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Administration (DOA), to discuss a land use study conducted by DOA concerning the Central State property.

Land Use Study for the Central State Property

Mr. McQueen updated the Committee on the land use study conducted by DOA in February. He stated that each member of the Committee should have a copy of the land use study which was mailed in February 1998. He said that the Governor wants to make sure that members of the community are in agreement with the proposed use of the property and have an opportunity to provide suggestions for the use of the property. Mr. McQueen explained that in order to get community input a task force will be created by the Governor. The members of the task force have not been identified.

The Committee discussed their concerns and problems with the land use study.

Representative Summers expressed her concern that the task force be truly community oriented. Rep. Summers asked how many members will be on the task force. Mr. McQueen stated the Department of Administration gave the Governor eight names, but he did not know how many members there will be on the task force.

Representative Summers asked about the suggested uses for the property. Mr. McQueen stated the study suggested the following possible uses: light industry, retail shops, day care, trade school, alternative living facilities, and green space.

Mental Health Needs in Indiana

Ms. Kathy Davis, Secretary, Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), stated that SB 215-98 requires some good information that must be provided to the Central State Advisory Committee (CSAC). She stated the FSSA has a number of efforts under way to gather the information for the CSAC. Ms. Davis explained that the 317 Commission, created last year in SB 317-97, is developing a statewide plan to serve individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities. She stated this plan will be presented to the committee in the near future. Ms. Davis also explained that a recently completed actuarial study will help provide information on the mental health needs in Indiana.

Mr. Rich Deliberty, Deputy Director, Transitional Services, Division of Mental Health, distributed copies of the Actuarial Study of Mental Health Needs¹. He stated that mental health care is health care not welfare or social services. He explained that there are now fewer people being treated in state hospitals and the length of stay is much shorter than in the past. Mr. Deliberty stated that mental health care is now being provided at community mental health centers rather than in hospital settings. He stated that people do not go to mental hospitals to live, but to be stabilized. State hospitals have become the last resort for treatment.

Mr. Deliberty described three groups of individuals who are treated in state hospitals: 1) individuals who have been there a long time; 2) the forensic population; and 3) individuals who need rehabilitation². He stated that people entering the state hospitals stay less than seven months. Mr. Deliberty explained that individuals can be treated better in the community, their quality of life is better, and the treatment in the community costs less than in a state hospital. He said there are two parts to the mental health system: 1) a large growing and innovative segment of community mental health services and 2) a shrinking segment of institutional treatment. He stated that the statewide need for mental health services is large and the state can not afford to pay for all the needed services.

Mr. Deliberty stated that the actuarial study only counted individuals with incomes under 200% of the poverty level. He said the actuarial study found that there 68,314 individuals in Indiana with serious mental illness, using Indiana's definition of mental illness. He said the definition of serious mental illness is based on a person having a psychiatric diagnosis and a disability in one or more functional areas. He stated that 29,911 individuals were served last year in Indiana by the Division of Mental Health. He also presented information on the number of individuals in the eleven county districts surrounding Marion County. Mr. Deliberty stated that there are 18,000 individuals with mental illness and the state is able to serve 11,000 people.

Mr. Robert Frazier, Deputy Director, Community Centers Inc., provided information about a task force that has been set up in Marion County to address the issues of homelessness, substance abuse, and mental illness and how to serve these individuals. He stated the task force was developed by the FSSA and has allowed much more collaboration among social service agencies. He stated the task force has not developed any recommendations and is still in the process of identifying the social service agencies that need to be involved in the task force. Mr. Fraizer explained one concern that has been identified is the tracking of individuals with mental illness or substance abuse. He stated that typically social service agencies are more concerned about service provision than tracking individuals.

Ms. Davis stated that FSSA understands that in Marion County there may be many as 1,000 people who are no longer receiving supplemental security income (SSI) benefits because they are drug and alcohol dependant. She stated that there is need for detox beds in Marion County but these services should be provided in the community rather than in an institutional setting.

Ms. Delores Weeks, President, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, South central Indiana, expressed her

¹A copy of the Actuarial Study of Mental health Needs is on file in the Legislative Information Center, Room 230 of the State House, Indianapolis Indiana, 46204. The telephone number of the Legislative Information Center is (317) 232-9856.

²A copy of the information provided by Mr. Deliberty is on file in the Legislative Information Center (see footnote 1)

concern that the Central State property would be considered for anything but a state hospital³. She stated that the property should be used as a Department of Correction (DOC) hospital.

Mr. Steve McCaffrey, Executive Director, Mental Health Association, discussed the problem of the forensic population with mental illness and where to provide services for these individuals. He stated the Mental Health Association would continue to push for individuals with mental illness to be served in the community, but there are a number of individuals who have mental illness residing in state prisons or county jails. He said the forensic population with mental illness needs a place to receive services. Mr. McCaffrey explained there is a problem in determining the number of individuals in the forensic population who need mental health services.

The next meeting date is set for July 7, 1998 at 10:00 a.m., in Room 233 of the Statehouse.

³ A copy of Ms. Weeks testimony is on file in the Legislative Information Center (see footnote 1)